

Texas Veterans Voice

SPRING 2010

A PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS VETERANS LAND BOARD ☆ JERRY PATTERSON, CHAIRMAN

TEXAS
VETERANS
LAND BOARD

SERVING
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VETERANS

GENERAL
INFORMATION
1-800-252-VETS (8387)
512-463-5060

VETERANS HOMES

Ussery-Roan

Texas State Veterans Home
Amarillo, Texas
806-322-VETS (8387)

Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez

Texas State Veterans Home
Big Spring, Texas
432-268-VETS (8387)

Clyde W. Cosper

Texas State Veterans Home
Bonham, Texas
903-640-VETS (8387)

Ambrosio Guillen

Texas State Veterans Home
El Paso, Texas
915-751-0967

Frank M. Tejeda

Texas State Veterans Home
Floresville, Texas
830-216-9456

Alfredo Gonzalez

Texas State Veterans Home
McAllen, Texas
956-682-4224

William R. Courtney

Texas State Veterans Home
Temple, Texas
254-791-8280

VETERANS CEMETERIES

Central Texas

State Veterans Cemetery
Killeen, Texas
254-616-1770

Rio Grande Valley

State Veterans Cemetery
Mission, Texas
956-583-7227

Texas State Veterans Cemetery
at Abilene
Abilene, Texas
325-673-4446

VLB Breaks Ground For Tyler Veterans Home

Veterans Land Board Chairman Jerry Patterson and State Representative Tommy Merritt announced in April 2009 that Tyler, in Smith County, would be home to a new, cutting-edge, long-term care facility for Texas veterans. Patterson is planning an official ground-breaking for the new facility at 1:30 p.m. on May 19, 2010 and an opening date in 2011.

"This new type of veterans home embodies a revolutionary approach to long-term care that I am proud to be able to bring to Texas veterans," Patterson said. "We're bringing the very best to the veterans in Tyler and the Smith County area. The Veterans Land Board has already built seven of the finest long-term care facilities in Texas, but this home will be a cut above."

Unlike previous state veterans homes, the Smith County home will consist of 10 cottages and one common building. The design approach for each cottage focuses on drawing residents into a social connection by mixing the best communal aspects of a home while still maintaining privacy and independence for the residents. An open kitchen, dining room and large table are at the heart of each of the 10 cottages. Family-style meals will be served at the table and residents can enjoy each other's company in the large living room with a fireplace. This communal heart of the home is what sets



Preliminary sketch of the future Texas State Veterans Home in Tyler.

this Texas State Veterans Home apart from any other similar facility in Texas.

"This new type of veterans home embodies a revolutionary approach to long-term care that I am proud to be able to bring to Texas veterans. We're bringing the very best to the veterans in Tyler and the Smith County area."

—Jerry Patterson

"The kitchen is the heart of any home and this new home takes that into account with meals prepared in each cottage," Patterson said. "Instead of one large, hospital-like facility, this home will consist of a cluster of small cottages to promote a family lifestyle. A total of 10 private rooms, each with its own bathroom, will be set up as "non-lift" facilities, where overhead tracks with slings in each resident's room will provide safe transport of non-ambulatory residents from bed to bath to chair. "If this sounds like a Cadillac of long-term care, it's because that's exactly what it will be," Patterson said. "Texas veterans deserve nothing less than the best we can provide."

See VLB Breaks Ground for Tyler Veterans Home, Page 5

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A Message from the Chairman

BY VETERANS LAND BOARD CHAIRMAN JERRY PATTERSON

Fellow Veterans:

I'm pleased to announce a May 19 groundbreaking for the Tyler Texas State Veterans Home, which you can read about in this issue of *Veterans Voice*. The Veterans Land Board, which I chair, has authorized a radically different plan for the Tyler veterans home, one that offers a home-like setting for the residents.

The Tyler veterans home will join sister homes in Amarillo, Big Spring, Bonham, El Paso, Floresville, McAllen and Temple. Each offers state-of-the-art care and is operated by the VLB exclusively for Texas veterans and their spouses. They're highly affordable and medications are included in the daily rate.

Another superb veterans cemetery begins construction in

June, when groundbreaking for the Coastal Bend State Veterans Cemetery takes place in Nueces County. The 54-acre cemetery will serve 53,000 veterans and their families who live in the area.

Among the cemetery's features: a covered, open-air structure for committal services; a visitors center; a computer system for locating specific graves or interments; an assembly area for special occasions, such as Memorial Day observances; an avenue of flags; and a memorial walkway for future monuments.

For more information about VLB veterans homes and cemeteries, please call our toll-free veterans hotline at 1-800-252-VETS (8387), or visit our Web site at www.texasveterans.com.

TEXAS VETERANS LAND BOARD

SERVING TEXAS VETERANS

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Texas Veterans Voice

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Less Confusion, More Benefits from the Texas Veterans Commission

Texas veterans deserve to get the most from the benefits they have earned, and so the state of Texas created the Texas Veterans Commission as the official advocate for Texas veterans. Its mission is to be the most helpful place for Texas veterans to receive assistance with their state and federal benefits.

Highly trained benefits experts, most of whom are veterans, provide claims representation and counseling, employment services and education programs at over 140 Texas Veterans Commission offices. Accessing benefits can feel overwhelming. Between medical records, paperwork, appointments, and busy schedules, it can also feel like a hassle. The Texas Veterans Commission can help. The staff will manage the

entire process and get veterans and their families the benefits they deserve. To start receiving assistance today, visit the Texas Veterans Commission Web site at www.tvc.state.tx.us.

Free College for Children of Texas Veterans

If you were living in Texas when you joined the military, your children may be eligible for a free education at a Texas public university. A recent change to the Hazelwood Act provides the option for veterans to pass on their Hazelwood benefits to their children. To see if you and your children are eligible go to <http://www.tvc.state.tx.us/Hazlewood.html>. ☆

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

"They went, they did not ask why—their country called
—and they were proud to serve."

MAY 15
Armed Forces Day

JUNE 14
Flag Day

MAY 31
Memorial Day

JULY 4
Independence Day

The Texas Veterans Land Board respectfully salutes all veterans and active duty service personnel around the world. On behalf of all Texans, thank you for your service and sacrifice.

Work on Coastal Bend State Veterans Cemetery in Corpus Christi Set to Begin Soon

A groundbreaking ceremony open to the public is planned for June 2010 for the Coastal Bend State Veterans Cemetery in Nueces County. The site, off Carbon Plant Road in Corpus Christi, was donated by Flint Hills Resources and submitted by Nueces County. Once final grant and funding approval is given by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), construction is expected to take about 18 months.

"The Coastal Bend State Veterans Cemetery will honor all who served," said VLB Chairman Jerry Patterson. "By naming it after the region, the VLB hopes to make each of the 53,000 veterans living in the area know these hallowed grounds are for them."

Since taking office in 2003, Patterson has overseen the construction of the state's first three state veterans cemeteries, which were built in Killeen, Mission and Abilene. The Abilene cemetery opened on Memorial Day, 2009. These state cemeteries complement the four VA national cemeteries in Texas, located in San Antonio, Houston, Dallas-Ft. Worth, and El Paso. There are no known plans for additional national cemeteries in Texas.

Eligibility for interment at a Texas State Veterans Cemetery is determined by VA regulations and can be reviewed at the VA Web site at www.cem.va.gov/eligible.htm, or by calling the VA's toll-free burial benefits line at 1-800-827-1000. The spouse or unmarried surviving spouse of an eligible veteran is also eligible under current VA regulations.

"The Coastal Bend State Veterans Cemetery will be a superb final resting place for our Texas veterans," Patterson said. "It will be

a lasting memorial to the men and women who serve our nation. We pledge to keep it immaculate, as befits a place of honor."

Watch your local news media and our Web site for details on the groundbreaking ceremony. For information about any state veterans cemetery, call the VLB toll-free at 1-800-252-VETS (8387) or visit the Web site at www.texasveterans.com. ☆

Servicemembers Civil Relief Act

The Texas Veterans Land Board announces a positive change for veterans to the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act as it affects VLB land, housing, and home improvement loans. The VLB will now offer interest rate benefits for the period of activation, plus one year after deactivation. Previously, benefits were extended only 90 days after deactivation. If you have been called to active duty and have a VLB land, housing, or home improvement loan, please call toll-free 1-800-252-VETS (8387) for more information.

VLB Nominee and San Antonio Veteran Selected as Outstanding Veteran Advocate for 2009

Ruben Balle from the San Antonio office of the Texas Veterans Land Board nominated Mr. J.R. Garza for the 2nd annual LeRoy V. Greene, Jr. Award. Garza was selected for the award among three other highly qualified candidates. The Bexar County Commissioners Court, Bexar County Veterans Service Office staff, Ms. Jennifer Greene, Bexar County Veterans, and the Garza family recognized Garza in a ceremony. The award is named after Greene, a retired Air Force Colonel and very prominent Bexar County community activist. Greene graduated from West Point, served in the Strategic Air Command as a Missile Officer, and served one year in Vietnam as a Special Operations Staff Advisor.

Garza enlisted in the U.S. Army at the age of 18 and was soon serving in Vietnam as a door gunner on an assault helicopter. While serving in Vietnam in 1971, Garza earned the prestigious Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm Device, Vietnam Service Ribbon with three Bronze Stars, Vietnam Campaign Ribbon, and numerous other military awards. Garza's unit flew toward the bullets while assisting and supporting ground forces. Garza hails from a strong military family with three brothers who also served in Vietnam.

Garza is a very active veterans advocate who helps veterans apply for VA Disability, Pension, Nursing Home Care, Health Care, Widows Pensions, etc. He serves his community by volunteering at the Audie Murphy VA Hospital and volunteering in over 21 Veterans/Community Organizations in the Bexar County area. "I'm

available to serve our brothers and sisters in arms anytime," Garza said. He served as the Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 14 Past Commander from 2005-2006. As a DAV Service Officer, Garza has first-hand knowledge of the entitlements returning Operation Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom veterans/families have and helps them apply for these benefits. ☆



Honoree J.R. Garza and VLB's Ruben Balle.

Texas State Veterans Homes News



Commissioner Patterson presents GLO Excellence Award to Marlene Adame for the McAllen TSVH.



Residents at TSVH in Bonham enjoy new ping pong and pool tables.



Change of Command at Ft. Hood – Lt. Col. Matt Melvin visits Temple TSVH residents.



Floresville residents are king and queen of the peanut festival.



Floresville residents go fishing!



Veterans Day at Big Spring TSVH: resident Bartley Brannan and SSGT. Matthew Christian from Dyess AFB.



Chairman Jerry Patterson with Mrs. Dolia Gonzalez at presentation of painting of namesake for TSVH home in McAllen.



Floresville TSVH won grand prize for their float at the peanut festival.

Commissioner Jerry Patterson awarded Marlene Adame, activity director at the Alfredo Gonzalez state veterans home the Commissioner's Excellence Award for outstanding service to the residents of the home. A native of Donna, Marlene has assembled and trained a fine activities team that has greatly enhanced the quality of life for the veteran residents. She is also nominated for the Texas Association of Homes and Services for the Aging Activity Director of the Year for 2010. ☆

Floresville hosts countywide veterans recognition event at high school football field and residents of the TSVH attended. Air Force NCO Association provided a barbecue lunch for the residents. ☆

"Generations of Uniforms" program at Courtney TSVH in Temple with special musical presentation by Lt. Col. Matt Melvin and the 553rd Combat Service Support Battalion of Ft. Hood. ☆

El Paso Border Chorders (barbershop quartet) and the 62nd Army Band entertained residents of Ambrosio Guillen TSVH along with city and state elected officials, the officer corps from the 1-56th Air Defense Artillery Battalion, and local veterans. ☆

Congressman Ralph Hall, U.S. Navy veteran, and Boy Scout Troop 911 joined the residents of the Clyde Coper TSVH in Bonham to celebrate Veterans Day and for a flag retirement ceremony. ☆

Airmen from Goodfellow and Dyess Air Force Bases joined residents at Big Spring to hear a special musical program by the students from Lakeview Headstart School. ☆

Residents of the Floresville TSVH were gifted with a Wii gaming system by the Law firm of Beth Janicek; residents attended the Cowboys Training Camp at the Alamodome; U.S. Army Medical Com-

mand Band entertained residents at a barbecue in September. ☆

Tascosa High School ROTC posted the colors at a Veterans Day program for residents and local veterans at the Ussery-Roan TSVH in Amarillo that featured veterans who fought in Iraq and Afghanistan. ☆

The Clyde W. Coper state veterans home in Bonham was gifted with a ping pong table by the Dallas/Ft. Worth International Facility Management Association and with a pool table by David Martinez, a member of that same organization. ☆

Mrs. Dolia Gonzalez, mother of Alfredo Gonzalez, namesake of the McAllen TSVH, observed Veterans Day with Chairman Jerry Patterson by presenting the home with a painting of her son in battle. John Flores, who wrote an award-winning biography of Alfredo Gonzalez, donated the painting. ☆

VLB Breaks Ground For Tyler Veterans Home

Continued from Page 1

The newest Texas State Veterans Home will be built on 20 acres donated by the University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler. The land is north of the Center, along the west side of Highway 155, just south of county Road 334. "Our campus is very excited to work with the Texas Veterans Land Board in bringing this advanced facility to Texas," said Dr. Kirk Calhoun, President of the University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler. "This facility will complement our rural geriatric and community health activities in this region of the state."

The home will be built with a grant of about \$12 million from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, with the remaining 35 percent financed by the Texas Veterans Land Board. The new home will join seven others across the state in Amarillo, Big Spring, Bonham, El Paso, Floresville, McAllen and Temple. The Texas State Veterans Homes offer a broad spectrum of health care services, comprehensive rehabilitation programs, special diets, recreational activities, social services, libraries, and certified, secured Alzheimer's units, each with its own secured outdoor courtyard.

The public is invited to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for the newest state veterans home in Tyler. Watch for details of the official groundbreaking ceremony in your local news media and on our Web site at www.texasveterans.com. For additional information on Texas State Veterans Homes and special home, land, and home improvement loans for Texas veterans, call toll-free 1-800-252-VETS (8387) or visit our Web site at www.texasveterans.com. ☆

WHERE HONOR LIVES *Texas State Veterans Homes*

- ☆ Affordable long-term care
- ☆ Exclusively for Texas veterans and their spouses and Gold Star parents
- ☆ Medicare and Medicaid certified
- ☆ Certified Alzheimer's Unit with beautifully landscaped, secured courtyard
- ☆ Clean, caring, family environment
- ☆ Certified by the State of Texas (Department of Aging and Disability Services)
- ☆ Owned by the Texas Veterans Land Board in partnership with the VA
- ☆ Professional, highly trained staff
- ☆ Skilled nursing facility

AMARILLO ☆ BIG SPRING ☆ BONHAM
EL PASO ☆ FLORESVILLE ☆ MCALLEN ☆ TEMPLE
COMING TO TYLER IN 2011

Taps: The Sound of Duty

By Jerry Patterson, Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office

This Memorial Day many Americans will attend special ceremonies honoring the men and women who have laid down their lives in service to our country. Such duty deserves our respect -- and this day allows us an opportunity to show that respect.

At many of these solemn observances a somber melody will likely echo over the proceedings. Sometimes played by one bugler, other times by two, the 24 notes that comprise Taps seem so simple and haunting.

Taps dates back to one sultry night in Virginia in July 1862. Encamped with the Fifth Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, at Harrison's Landing on the James River, Brigadier General Daniel Adams Butterfield decided he didn't like the bugle call being used for "Lights Out." The call was originally set down by Silas Casey years before, and he had borrowed it from the French. Butterfield thought the call was too formal, too foreign.

Oliver Willcox Norton, the brigade bugler, was called to Gen. Butterfield's tent to work out a new tune. Butterfield whistled the proposed tune, possibly a derivation of an even older tune. Norton turned it into music, made a few changes and the bugle call we now know as Taps was born. Eventually, it was heard and picked up by other buglers in other commands.

Taps was first used at a funeral later that year during the Peninsular Campaign. A soldier in Union Captain John C. Tid-

ball's battery was to be buried at a time when the standard three volleys of rifle fire would endanger their position so near to the enemy. Capt. Tidball substituted the rifle fire with Taps, and word of this spread through the ranks. Eventually, the call was written into the Tactics manual for use by all U.S. forces.

Taken in the simplest sense, Taps played at a military funeral signifies the end of a day -- the end of a life. Lights Out. It symbolizes the respect upon which our Armed Forces are based.

So, if this Memorial Day, you happen to hear the sound of Taps, think not of death, but the sense of duty which bound that person to offer his life for your freedom. That is the true meaning of those 24 simple notes.

There are no official lyrics to Taps, but the words that seem most appropriate are these:

Go to sleep, peaceful sleep,
May the soldier or sailor,
God keep
On the land or the deep,
Safe in sleep.

Jerry Patterson is a former State Senator, Vietnam Veteran and retired Marine Lt. Colonel.

2009 Armed Forces Bowl Game Honors Veterans

For the last several New Year's Eves, VFW Post #8787 in North Austin has provided a hearty breakfast to troops traveling from the San Antonio area to attend the Armed Forces Bowl Game in Ft. Worth. Continuing the tradition this year, Post #8787, along with local boy scouts, Veterans Land Board staff members, and other veterans and their families provided busloads of active duty troops and Wounded Warriors with food and fellowship as they passed through Austin. It's no small task to prepare 250 to 400 servings of eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, biscuits and gravy. At the same time, the volunteers were visiting with the young men and women who are guarding our freedom, as well as with those who have served, those who will serve and those who have lost loved ones in the service of our country.

The service members and veterans continued to Ft. Worth and joined 38,000 fans of the United States Air Force Academy and the University of Houston in the Seventh annual Armed Forces Bowl Game, sponsored by Bell Helicopter. Air Force avenged its loss to Houston in last year's Armed Forces Bowl Game, and strains of "Off we go into the wild blue yonder" could be heard throughout Amon G. Carter Stadium.

The game was televised on ESPN and during timeouts, the crowd was treated to Gunny R. Lee Ermey's "Be Proud Texas" media clips about the Texas Veterans Land Board programs on the jumbotron. VLB staff members manned booths at the exhibit area providing veterans with information on their state benefits. At halftime, over 100 new recruits of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast

Guard were sworn into active duty by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Michael Mullen USN. Each quarter began with the anthem of one of the branches of service, and recognition of those members in attendance who were presently serving or had formerly served. There were military flyovers and displays of military hardware throughout the event.

The bowl game organizers offered a 50 percent discount on tickets to veterans and their families and a generous portion of all ticket revenue went to the Children of Fallen Soldiers Relief Fund. ☆



TSVH residents attend the Armed Forces Bowl game.

From the Editor

VA announces opening of new outpatient clinics during 2010 in Richmond, Lake Jackson, Katy and Tomball. The clinic in Texas City will be re-opened. The clinics in Katy and Tomball will be the largest, with about 30,000 square feet each. ☆

Correction: The Editor regrets an error in the last issue concerning the passing of Robert K. Marshall, III, who was shown as "Jr." rather than "III." ☆

The members of Promised Land West Church of Austin provided a turkey dinner with all the trimmings as well as toys for the children of 1,822 Junior Enlisted Families at Ft. Hood on December 5th. One of those family members was Juan Soto, a 1st Cavalry Ranger, SGT First Class. He served in the first Gulf War, Kosovo, three tours in Iraq and two tours in Afghanistan. He retires in 2010 and plans to use the VLB land and housing loans for his new home in Orange Grove, Texas. ☆

Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery in Killeen held the largest single event in its history on Nov. 28, 2009 for a wreath-laying ceremony. There were over 2,000 attendees at the event organized by the Friends of the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery. All the existing graves were decorated. ☆

New memorial project in Granbury named "Veteran Falls" to honor veterans and fallen heroes in the war against terrorism. Visit www.veteranfalls.com for more information. ☆

VLB Recognized 2009 Top Veterans Lenders

The Veterans Land Board recognized Pat Fitzgerald and Jimmy Alexander as the top two lenders in the veterans home loan program for 2009. Fitzgerald, loan officer for Prime Lending (Plains Capital National Bank) and Alexander, loan officer for SWBC Mortgage, were presented with certificates of recognition and appreciation at luncheons hosted in their honor by the lending institutions they represent. Deborah Huddleston, loan officer for CTX Mortgage and Cornerstone Mortgage Company made the third highest number of home loans to veterans in the VLB Housing Assistance Loan Program. Leading the list of the top 20 lenders for 2009, these three loan officers went the extra mile to help Texas veterans realize their dream of home ownership. ☆



Pat Fitzgerald receives a certificate of achievement from Tamara Tapman.



Jimmy Alexander receives a certificate of achievement from Tamara Tapman.

VLB Continues to Host Benefits Fairs Across Texas

Hosted by the Veterans Land Board and the Texas Veterans Commission, these benefits fairs will offer information and assistance on veterans loan programs, state veterans homes and cemeteries, VA benefits and assistance with VA claims. If you want to discuss a VA claim, please bring your file or claim number to the fair. Representatives from the Social Security Administration and the Small Business Administration will also be available at most of the fairs. Texas State Veterans Homes nursing staff members will provide free health screenings on-site.

In 2009, thousands of veterans attended the 10 benefits fairs around the state. Parking and admission is always free and everyone is welcome to attend. Drawings for door prizes continue throughout the three-hour event.

All the Benefits Fairs are come-and-go with continuous programs, and will begin at 10:00 a.m. and remain open through 1:00 p.m. for your convenience. Please call toll-free 1-800-252-VETS (8387) or visit www.texasveterans.com for complete information on these benefits fairs. ☆

Upcoming Benefits Fairs

MARCH 27 Irving <i>Betcha Bingo Center</i>	JULY 10 Odessa <i>UT Permian Basin Gymnasium</i>
JULY 24 Humble <i>Humble Civic Center</i>	AUGUST 7 San Antonio <i>Live Oak Civic Center</i>
SEPTEMBER 11 El Paso <i>El Paso Community College Administration Center</i>	AUGUST 28 Longview <i>Maude Cobb Convention Center</i>
OCTOBER 16 McAllen <i>McAllen Convention Center</i>	OCTOBER 30 Corpus Christi <i>Solomon Ortiz International Center</i>

Plan to Attend a Benefits Fair Near You!

Participate in Voices of Veterans Oral History Program

Hundreds of Texas veterans have already participated in the Voices of Veterans Oral History Program, sharing their vivid memories of the roles they played in past conflicts.

The Voices of Veterans Oral History Program seeks to record the stories of Texas veterans and archive the transcripts in the Office of Veterans Records for future researchers, historians, genealogists and the general public. Every veteran has a story to tell, and this program will ensure these stories of courage and service can inspire Texans for generations to come.

Any veteran interested in including his or her story in the Voices of Veterans Program should contact the Veterans Land Board at 1-800-252-VETS (8387), or send an e-mail to vlbinfo@glo.state.tx.us.

Oral history interviews can be conducted in person at the Veterans Land Board in Austin, or by telephone from anywhere in Texas. Interviews usually last from one to two hours. ☆



www.voicesofveterans.com

VLB Offers Wide Range of Veterans Benefits

Low-interest, long-term loans for land, homes and home improvements:

- ★ \$80,000 land loans, 30-year, fixed-rate, minimum one acre
- ★ Up to \$325,000 for purchase of a primary residence, 15- or 30-year fixed rate terms
- ★ Up to \$25,000 for 20-year term for home improvements, no down payment

Dignified places of rest for Texas veterans, their spouses and dependent children at Texas State Veterans Cemeteries

- ★ Abilene
- ★ Killeen
- ★ Mission
- ★ Corpus Christi opening 2012

Affordable, long-term nursing care facilities exclusively for Texas veterans, their spouses and Gold Star parents at Texas State Veterans Homes

Amarillo ★ Big Spring ★ Bonham ★ El Paso ★ Floresville ★ McAllen ★ Temple
Coming to Tyler in 2011



TEXAS VETERANS LAND BOARD

JERRY PATTERSON, CHAIRMAN
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AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711-2873

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TEXAS
VETERANS

Next VLB Forfeited Land Sale

Tuesday, April 27, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.

Bids must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on Monday, April 26, 2010. A bid may not be presented on the day of the sale.
No funds should be submitted prior to the sale.

Open to the public at the Stephen F. Austin Building, 1700 N. Congress, Room 940A, Austin, Texas

At the last sale on October 27, 2009, the VLB offered 54 tracts for sale and sold 25 of those tracts for a little over \$1 million. Unsold tracts from prior sales (Type II tracts) are available for sale to the general public on a first come, first served basis. Listings of tracts available from all previous sales are posted on our Web site at www.texasveterans.com. Any of those tracts that have been on the Web site for more than six months are now being marketed and sold by a private auction company, Hudson & Marshall. For more information on these tracts, visit the Hudson & Marshall Web site at www.TXLandAuction.com.

Type I tracts offered at the next sale on April 27, 2010 are listed at www.texasveterans.com. For a printed copy of the listings for the April 2010 sale or for any other information, call toll-free at 1-800-252-VETS (8387).

NEW: There is a limit on the number of bids you may submit. You may bid on a total of six tracts. You must indicate a bid preference on each bid or the bid will be rejected. All bids must have original signatures. See the instructions included in the listings book or at the Web site at www.texasveterans.com. ☆

ARE YOU CURRENTLY ON ACTIVE DUTY? DID YOU SERVE IN THE NATIONAL GUARD?

**Please check our eligibility requirements in the forfeited land sale listings book
or at the Web site or call toll-free at 1-800-252-VETS (8387).**

WANT A VETERANS LAND BOARD SPEAKER?

If you would like to feature a VLB speaker at your organization's next meeting, call toll-free 1-800-252-VETS (8387) or contact a VLB representative near you. To find a representative in your area, visit our Web site at www.texasveterans.com and click on "General Information," then select "Outreach Marketing Offices."